

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SIG-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 USIE-00
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DRAFTED BY AF/C:GHAMILTON:LAR
APPROVED BY AF/C:TRBUCHANAN
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O 220052Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AO, CG

SUBJECT: CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE - BORDER ATTACK ON
ZAIRE - MARCH 21, 1977

1. PARAS 2-10 CONTAIN PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR MARCH 21
DEPT BRIEFING, FOR USE ONLY IF ASKED.
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2. Q. WHERE ARE THE INVADING FORCES?

A. OVER THE WEEKEND THEY WERE REPORTED TO BE WEST OF THE
TOWN OF MUTSHATSHA, BUT THE ZAIRIANS STATE THAT GOVERNMENT
FORCES HAVE RETAKEN KASAJI.

3. Q. HAS THERE BEEN ANY DECISION ON THE ADDITIONAL REQUESTS FOR MILITARY SUPPLIES MADE BY THE ZAIRIAN GOVERNMENT?

A. THE ZAIRIAN REQUESTS ARE STILL BEING STUDIED.

4. Q. WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE ZAIRIAN'S SUPPLEMENTARY REQUEST?

A. WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF THEIR REQUEST AT THIS TIME.

5. Q. WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE SECOND SHIPMENT OF MATERIEL TO ZAIRE?

A. THE SECOND SHIPMENT OF MATERIEL PURCHASED BY ZAIRE UNDER THE FOREIGN MILITARY SALES PROGRAM WILL BE SHIPPED TODAY MARCH 21, VIA A CHARTERED SEABOARD WORLD AIRWAYS BOEING 747. WE CANNOT PROVIDE A DETAILED LIST OF WHAT WILL BE INCLUDED, YET, BUT THE BULK OF THE EQUIPMENT WILL BE C-130 SPARE PARTS AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT. THE REST OF THE SHIPMENT WILL BE EQUIPMENT SUCH AS RATIONS, UNIFORMS, ETC. SIMILAR TO THE MATERIAL SHIPPED ON THE FIRST FLIGHT. THE COST OF THE EQUIPMENT WHICH WILL BE CARRIED ON THIS SECOND FLIGHT IS TENTATIVELY ESTIMATED AT 600,000 DOLLARS.

6. Q. WHAT IS THE PLANE'S DEPARTURE POINT?
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A. THE PLANE WILL DEPART FROM JOHN F. KENNEDY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN NEW YORK.

7. Q. ANY FURTHER WORD FROM THE MISSIONARIES?

A. WE HAVE HAD NO FURTHER WORD. ALL REPORTS THUS FAR RECEIVED INDICATE THAT THEY ARE BEING WELL TREATED.

8. Q. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE AMERICAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY IN ZAIRE IS EVACUATING DEPENDENTS OF ITS EMPLOYEES FROM KINSHASA TO THE U.S.

A. THE DEPENDENTS WHO WERE EARLIER EVACUATED FROM KOLWEZI ARE BEING RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES BECAUSE ADEQUATE FAMILY HOUSING IS VERY SCARCE IN KINSHASA. THE COMPANY INTENDS TO RETURN THESE DEPENDENTS TO KOLWEZI AS SOON AS CONDITIONS PERMIT.

9. Q. HOW MANY AMERICANS REMAIN IN THE SHABA AREA?

A. OUR LATEST ESTIMATES INDICATE THAT 189 AMERICANS REMAIN IN THE SHABA REGION. FORTY AMERICANS ARE IN KOLWEZI.

10. Q. WHY IS THE SECRETARY SEEING THE NIGERIAN MINISTER AND AT WHO'S REQUEST IS THE MEETING TAKING PLACE?

A. BRIG. JOSEPH N. GARBA IS IN THE U.S. TO ADDRESS THE U.N. ON THE SUBJECT OF APARTHEID. HE IS CALLING ON THE

THE SECRETARY THIS AFTERNOON TO DISCUSS AFRICAN ISSUES. VANCE

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